# Current Economic Programs Printed Survey Results: by the Wholesale Trade Statistics Users Respondent Base

U.S. Census Bureau Current Economic Statistics User Survey

OMB CQM-26 (Rev.5/5/98)

# I. DATA CONTENT

Your answers identifying the survey data you use will help us understand our users' patterns of data use.

1. Which Current Economic Statistics from the Census Bureau do you use? (Mark all that apply.)

#### (1) Monthly

0.4%;	1	None
88.5%;	200	Retail Sales
100.0%;	226	Wholesale Trade
82.7%;	187	Manufacturing/Trade Inventory/Sales
64.6%;	146	Housing Starts
57.1%;	129	Building Permits
55.8%;	126	New Home Sales
49.6%;	112	Value of New Construction Put in Place
36.3%;	82	Housing Completions
30.1%;	68	Expenditures for Residential Improvements
38.1%;	86	New Residential Construction
19.5%;	44	New Mobile Home Placements
55.8%;	126	Monthly Imports and Exports
54.0%;	122	Current Industrial Reports
61.9%;	140	Manufacturers' Shipments, Inventories, Orders

#### Replies 226; Forms 226

#### (2) Quarterly

58.3%;	77	Quarterly Financial Report
78.8%;	104	Current Industrial Reports
5.3%;	7	Federal Assistance Awards Data System
15.2%;	20	Quarterly Tax Survey
8.3%;	11	Quarterly Public Employee Retirement

# Replies 132; Forms 226

# (3) Annual

70.9%;	144	Annual Retail Trade
74.9%;	152	Annual (Wholesale) Trade
29.1%;	59	Annual Survey of Communications
32.0%;	65	Transportation Annual Survey
34.0%;	69	Service Annual Survey
56.7%;	115	County Business Patterns

29.6%;	60	ZIP Code Business Patterns
40.9%;	83	Statistics of U.S. Businesses
28.1%;	57	Characteristics of New Housing
37.9%;	77	Annual Building Permits
22.7%;	46	New Residential Construction in Selected Metropolitan Areas
35.0%;	71	Annual Capital Expenditures
73.9%;	150	Annual Survey of Manufactures
58.6%;	119	Current Industrial Reports
21.7%;	44	Research and Development Survey
32.0%;	65	Plant Capacity Utilization
10.8%;	22	Education Finance Survey
14.3%;	29	State Tax Collection Survey
7.9%;	16	Annual Public Employee Retirement
13.8%;	28	Annual Survey of Public Employment
13.3%;	27	Consolidated Federal Funds Report
23.2%;	47	State Government Finances
43.3%;	88	Annual Imports and Exports

Replies 203; Forms 226

#### II. DATA DELIVERY

The Census Bureau is considering use of the Internet as the primary method of data delivery. By completing the following questions, you will help us retain the most essential delivery formats and design the best possible data delivery service.

#### (4) 2. How do you receive current economic data now? (Mark all that apply.)

88.0%; 198 Printed 76.0%; 171 World \ 33.3%; 75 CD-RO 21.3%; 48 Diskette	Vide Web (Internet) Ms	•	Direct (E-mail) delivery Regular mail
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#### Replies 225; Forms 226

- EBB (of Stat-USA) Phone calls
- visit to Census release library and requests to commerce library.
- Newspaper
- Economic Bulletin Board
- from others in the organization we use ftp site extensively.
- Would prefer receiving printed schedules to let me know what data is available via internet.
- Commerce Department Economic Bulletin Board
- Electronic "Bulletin Boards"
- TAPE 1/2
- · Check values by telephone
- also use microfiche in some cases.
- time-share vendor (private)
- Analytics
- News Services-Market News.
- DRI DATABASE
- Internet, ProNet
- sec, Secondary Vendor (R
- Newswires
- Fax from Japanese media
- Stat-USA
- Overnight Delivery of NIA data

- Subscribe to America Statistic Index on Microfiche
- STAT-USA+WEFA Group
- (5) 3. What format do you PREFER when downloading data for further manipulation? (Mark all that apply.)

62.4%; 131 Spreadsheet (e.g., wkl, xls, etc...)

27.1%; 57 ASCII delimited

27.1%; 57 Database (e.g., dbf, mdb, etc...)

22.4%; 47 ASCII flat files

17.1%; 36 Retrieve from print or screen and enter manually

16.2%; 34 Do not manipulate data

4.3%; 9 Other

#### Replies 210; Forms 226

- pdf format
- Sas data sets
- Change to ladscape small font 9
- to be determined
- Text files: txt. or PRN
- Excel
- · PDF formats were the best
- Word Document
- 4. What capabilities do you want on the Census Internet site? (For each line, indicate the degree of your preferences, from 5 [high] to 1 [low].)
- (6) a. Direct (E-mail) delivery:

48.2%;	92 5	18.3%;	35 3	8.4%;	16 1
13.6%;	26 4	5.8%;	11 2	5.8%;	11 Don't know

#### Replies 191; Forms 226

(7) b. E-mail notification:

45.9%;	85 5	18.4%;	34 3	5.9%;	11 1
14.6%;	27 4	8.6%;	16 2	6.5%;	12 Don't know

Replies 185; Forms 226

(8) c. Retrieve/display to screen:

56.6%; 107 5	11.6%; 22 3	6.9%; 13 1
16.9%; 32 4	1.6%; 3 2	6.3%; 12 Don't know

Replies 189; Forms 226

(9) d. Search:

72.6%;	146 5	10.0%;	20	3	1.5%;	3	1
12.4%;	25 4	1.0%;	2	2	2.5%;	5	Don't know

Replies 201; Forms 226

(10)	e. Downl	load complete data	sets:					
	70.3%;	137 5	9.7%;	19	3	1.5%;	3	1
	11.3%;	22 4	4.1%;	8	2	3.1%;	6	Don't know
	Replies 1	95; Forms 226						
(11)	f. Downlo	oad selected data:						
	76.4%;	152 5	6.0%;	12	3	1.0%;	2	1
	11.1%;	22 4	3.0%;	6	2	2.5%;	5	Don't know
	Replies 1	99; Forms 226						
(12)	g. Softwa	are help/tutorials:						
	24.1%;	42 5	28.7%;	50	3	7.5%;	13	1
	16.1%;	28 4	17.2%;	30		6.3%;		Don't know
	Replies 1	74; Forms 226						
(13)	h. Public	cation-quality printin	g:					
	37.2%;	68 5	18.6%;	34	3	13.1%;	24	1
	18.0%;	33 4	9.8%;	18	2	3.3%;	6	Don't know
	Replies 1	83; Forms 226						
(14)	i. Charts	and graphs:						
	31.4%;	59 5	16.5%;	31	3	15.4%;	29	1
	18.1%;	34 4	13.8%;	26	2	4.8%;	9	Don't know
	Replies 1	88; Forms 226						
(15)	j. Geogra	aphic maps:						
	33.5%;	60 5	14.0%;	25	3	18.4%;	33	1
	14.0%;	25 4	12.8%;	23	2	7.3%;	13	Don't know
	Replies 1	79; Forms 226						
(16)	k. Other	r, please specify:						
	56.2%;	9 electronic bul	letin board		43.8%;	7 Other		
	Replies 1	6; Forms 226						

- Publications like QFR to be in spreadsheet format or mdb for easy data manipulation after downlading.
- Structure and specialists available to help researchers find data.
- Internet site very important to receive data from.
- Don't know if electronic bulletin is used to collect
- Don't know if electronic bulletin board was used
- electronic
- Update full report at release time

#### (17) I. Electronic Bulletin Board (To collect write-ins)

0.0%;	0 5	0.0%;	0 3	0.0%;	0 1
0.0%;	0 4	0.0%;	0 2	0.0%;	0 Don't know

Replies 0; Forms 226

#### III. DATA USAGE

Your answers describing how you use the data will help us design the most effective Current Economic Statistics retrieval tool.

#### (18) 5. Do you combine/compare/merge data from more than one source listed in Question 1?

26.5%; 56 No 73.5%;	155	Yes
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Replies 211; Forms 226

#### (19) 6. What time periods do you consider when using these data? (Mark X all that apply.)

64.4%;	141 trends up to 5 years	42.9%;	94 trends up to 1 year
63.0%;	138 5+ years	0.0%;	0 Other
47.9%;	105 latest 1 or 2 periods		

Replies 219; Forms 226

#### (20) 7. How do you use the data? (Mark all that apply.)

52.1%;	112	Create value-added products/services
44.2%;	95	Perform patron/client inquiries
22.8%;	49	Republish in newspaper/journal
21.9%;	47	Inform marketing decisions
21.4%;	46	Inform investment decisions
40.00/.	40	Ctore was auto/swinter to for evaluational services

18.6%; 40 Store reports/printouts for archival purposes

6.0%; 13 Locate new sites

0.5%; 1 Other

#### Replies 215; Forms 226

• Store data in database.

# (21) 8. What explanatory information do you consult when using these data? (Mark all that apply.)

77.5%;	165	Definition of terms
58.7%;	125	Narrative text describing survey results
54.0%;	115	Sampling and estimation methodology
43.7%;	93	Survey design
10.3%;	22	None
2.8%;	6	Other

Replies 213; Forms 226

#### -

- Explanations of data changes/revisions
   short trong summers is outromaly helpful where no
- short trend summary is extremely helpful-where possible.
- Direct contact with Census analysts
- Comparisons to earlier surveys and/or similar data from other agencies--e.g. census to BEA in one estimates.

- AD HOC
- · Background papers, Journal Articles

#### (22) 9. Do you have any pressing data or information needs that are not currently being met?

- We are very much interested in unadjusted counterparts of tables 7 & 8 of the FT900 release being made available on internet on the day of release. Publications like QFR also need to be made available in spreadsheet or mdb for us to further manipulate data.
- No. Increasingly more and more data sets are becoming available electronically-which makes our work easier by eliminating manual inputing of data.
- Regional retail sales estimates (cancelled after 1996)
- Yes--Need more timely and move defined (i.e.4-digit SIC code) SUB-NATIONAL data.
- Retail Trade Monthly Regional Data Survey Blue Pages, Building Permits Non-Resident & Additions.
- Print publications no longer available, yet there is no notice that the print publication will no longer exist. Impossible to find the exact publication on the Internet so clients can compare and update printed data. Current information available but how long will older information remain available?
- No
- Capital Outlays Ouarterly By Industry
- Need updated 1990 Census Data.
- None.
- Information on nonresidential construction.
- Printing in ASCII, converted to 6.1. That gives complete graph 15 columns.
- Need more monthly physical output dat for manufacturing.
- Foreign trade exports & imports by 4-digit (data that had been available in "Trades Employment") without SIC (& soon NAIC), cannot compare trade with domestic activity.
- Monthly retail sales were previously available by U.S. region! We need this!
- No.
- Selected salaries for selected industries & occupations.
- MCD Business Patterns, Massachusetts is doing away with county government, MCD income estimates.
- Timely release of data in an easy-to-access format (ie: XLS, 123, etc.) with revisions and option of pulling complete time series.
- Non-residential building permits--number by type of building.
- The availability of Residential and Commercial Building Permit Data.
- We need all stats available for the Jewelry Industry especially by geographic region.
- I'd love to see employment data by SIC based on place of residence. Also wish for reconciliation between RIMS, SIC, & NAICS.
- Int'l trade data on internet are inadequate. Only press releases are there. When data are revised, if data are not in the press release, there is no way to get the revisions (ex: monthly data from exhibits 6&7 of FT900.
- · Monthly historical trade data.
- Number of Mobile Homes & Value of, by state, on a monthly basis. (Currently only published annually) -- Also, by county, if possible.
- No.
- · More timely data.
- Non-residential building permits data nad value of new non-residential construction part in place.
- Keeping \_\_\_\_\_ disaggregated data sets \_\_\_\_\_ possible that are consistent, and therefore directly comparable is very helpful.
- 1) NAICS to harmonized code concordance. 2) Timely plant capacity utilization at greatest detail level possible. 3) Windows version import data/monthly annual easy to use historical with full detail. 4) New Home sales (without land).
- YES! Bring back non-residential state/local permits authorized! This was a severe loss for interpreting local economic trends. Also, more geographic detail, more frequently.
- Seasonal Population estimates. More information on affordable housing-market.
- State, county & local permit date for nonresidential construction. Use to get this.
- BLS has great site. Well organized. Need to make it easy to find seasonal factors and benchwork.

- current retail sales
- Yes. I have been looking for cost dat for pollution data for different pollutants by categories for the last years from 1993 +, but could not.
- Pollution abatement expenditures by SIC
- Commercial & industrial building permit activity!
- Want monthly retail trade by state & MSA back.
- 1). Inventory by stage for M3 categories. 2). Separation of electronic components into semiconductors and other.
- Yes, Non-residential permits and regional retail sales.
- Using CPS-online. The current terret use does not allow for cross-tabs and sub-group data collection.
- Place and regional economic data sets in relation to population/race trends.
- Better linkage between manufacturing industries and downstream reproducing and distribution.
   Information pertaining to weights or units with respect to distribution. At processing we measure weights and units. At distribution and are measured. It's discontinuous and you can't measure what he system is doing.
- Make data reports easier to print off of the web.
- Service Data on an manual/quarterly/monthly basis by 2,3, & 4-digit SIC!
- Higher quality data--sampling errors are too large
- Housing Starts by State; Retail Sales by State
- Advanced Retail numbers should have "jewelry stores".
- Website is extremely difficult to navigate.
- Crime--not all areas of the U.S. participate in their state uniform crime reports program, so it becomes difficult to make informed decisions.
- Need detailed PPI data.
- Need to simplify getting quick data.
- Elimination of Group II sales data and problems
- Median income and poverty tables are not in spreadsheet form (they one were).
- Imports and exports by 4-digit SIC. Very important--in print. Publication form--quarterly.
- We would like to see more economic data and analyses at the state & MSA level.
- Geographic Area Retail Sales
- Quarterly data, analyzed growth rates for all statistics. Currently, only some fo the data is shown as a quarterly growth rat analyzed.
- MSA retail sales
- Monthly service sector sales counterpart data st to retail, wholesale, and manufacturing shipments.
- The more history, the better.
- Commercial, Industrial, and other non-residential construction put-in-place!
- Immediate posting of data revisions when significant revisions are undertaken.
- We have a need for long historical time series and for long-term forecasts.
- Commercial Building Permits County level on a timely basis.
- As a foreign academic library, we are concerned about cost of access.
- Report on productionn of industrial fabrics
- Very disappointed that non-residential building permit data is no longer being tracked--our models rely on this!

#### IV. INDUSTRY CLASSIFICATION ISSUES

We will soon begin restructuring the Current Economic Surveys based on the new North American Industry Classification System (NAICS). Your answers will help us ensure that these surveys continue to provide the economic information needed by markets, policy makers, and business people. For more information on NAICS, see the Bureau's web site: http://www.census.gov/NAICS.

# (24) 10. At what levels of detail do you MOST FREQUENTLY USE industry data classified by Standard Industrial Classification (SIC)? (Mark all that apply.)

66.2%; 141 4-digit industries (or maximum detail I can get)

43.7%; 93 Sector totals (SIC division); e.g., Manufacturing or Retail Trade

39.0%; 83 3-digit industry groups 38.5%; 82 2-digit major groups

8.0%; 17 NA (don't use SIC-based data)

4.2%; 9 Other

#### Replies 213; Forms 226

- 6 TO 10 digit
- · digit SIC product codes
- HS
- NAICS, Duns' Product Codes
- 3
- Greater detail when available
- The greatest level available--CIR level. Product level.
- Would like to have 6 or 7 digit SIC
- Only sell the NAICS

# (25) 11. Were you aware that the SIC system is being replaced by the North American Industry Classification System (NAICS)?

19.0%; 41 I was unaware of this

31.9%; 69 I am partially aware, but lack details

49.1%; 106 I am aware and understand some implications

Replies 216; Forms 226

#### 12. Would you like to receive more information about NAICS?

#### (26) Yes, please send me - (Mark all that apply)

89.0%; 137 A brochure that explains NAICS 34.4%; 53 Conference announcements 68.8%; 106 NAICS implementation plans 7.1%; 11 Other

#### Replies 154; Forms 226

- Comparison-SIC VS. NAICS Similar to when SIC definitions change.
- Send info on NAICS comparability with existing SIC data.
- Disk that has SIC/NAICS Conversions
- H.S. Concordances
- The reference book of classifications
- Info on how to reconcile two systems.
- · Contacted by local information office fo Bureau.
- I am awaiting CD-ROM!
- We bought the big NIACS book earlier this year--has it been updated?
- Already know

#### (27) No Thanks -

63.6%; 42 I will check the Census Bureau's web site (www.census.gov/naics)

36.4%; 24 I don't need more information about NAICS

Replies 66; Forms 226

#### V. USER PROFILE

Please tell us about yourself so we may serve you better.

#### (28) 13. Type of organization.

44.1%;       97 Business       4.5%;       10 Media         21.4%;       47 Government       4.1%;       9 Individual         15.5%;       34 Academic/Research       0.9%;       2 Library         5.5%;       12 Association       4.1%;       9 Other
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#### Replies 220; Forms 226

- Information and consulting firm
- Quasi-Gov't
- Consulting
- Economics Consulting
- Labor Union
- Library (University
- University
- · Corp. Library
- non-profit trade promotion

# (29) 14. Do you work in your organization's library?

35.6%; 77 Yes 64.4%; 139 No	35.6%;	77 Yes	64.4%; 139 No
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Replies 216; Forms 226

#### (30) 15. What is your affiliation with the Census Bureau?

75.7%;	162 None	0.9%;	2 Census Information Center
8.9%;	19 State Data Center	0.9%;	2 Affiliate Data Center
4.2%;	9 Business/Industry Data Center	9.3%;	20 Other

#### Replies 214; Forms 226

- Affiliate of the State Data Center
- user of Census data
- Need statistical info on Jewelry Industry.
- Special Sworn Employee
- Federal User
- Cooperator in disseminating permits authorized data
- Census Liason
- Research
- Customer
- Affiliate Agency
- Government
- Depository
- State Data Center Affiliate
- DOC Staff
- Data use.
- Sell Census documents
- GPO Depository
- Associate Data Center
- Affiliate
- Federal Depository Library

(35) 20. May we contact you to follow up on this questionnaire?

77.4%; 164 Yes 22.6%; 48 No

Replies 212; Forms 226

#### (36) Question 21. Remarks:

- It would be nice to have all reports available in spreadsheets format. For any publication reports that contain large tables and data, mdb file format would be an ideal too.
- We greatly appreciate this survey. I'd like to stress one major concern we have: As you move
  toward complete Internet delivery of data-please continue to publish "hard copies" of the economic
  reports for us to compare as backup. We have noticed that occasionally there are errors in
  Electronic Bulletin Board and Internet files--so we rely on the hard copy as backup. We use it as a
  safeguard. Thank you and feel free to contact me at your convenience.
- The computerized data is fine when know exactly which dat you want. It is not so good when you want to know what is available and related information; in this case the printed publication e.g. censu of Manufactures, is far superior.
- We would like to be placed on your mailing list to regularly received the publications as checkmarked on the attached listing form.

#### Sincerely, William A. Rossi

- I've been trying to get Census data since 1991. I've use NTDB CD-ROM, StatUSA CD and now the
  Internet site. As soon as I learn the system really well-you change it. After I loaded the StatUSA
  CD--The NTDB CD would not work. We need older figures going back to the 1980's. It's
  impossible to run NTDP, then StatUSA on the smae PC. I really hate the StatUSA CD.
- 1). It is important to be able to retreive data in easy to use formats (spreadsheet or ascii)- "pdf" formats are convenient to print, but difficult to use. 2). Please see question 9. 3). We are concerned about the discontinuity in time series data that will occur with NAICs. The 1987 SIC change was a significant problem-NAICS will likely be much worse. Any help from Census (bridges, publication of data in both classifications) would be a great help to data users.
- I suport the move toward Internet data delivery because it should make data available faster and at a lower cost. the challenge is to make it easy for the widest variety of data users as possible to retrieve the data the need.

Example: I use County Business Patterns to track number of establishment for certain industries by state. I believe dat users on the Internet currently can select only one year at a time and one state at a time. the ability to put together summary tables based on selections would help a lot.

- In our work with furniture manufacturers and retailers we consistently need breakdowns of mrgrs. shipments by product classification (ie. bedroom) on a more timely basis & retail sales at a smaller geographic level.
- A published paper version should always be made available for purchase to the public. Information being available on the internet is nice, yet it is a completely different animal than having a hard copy version of the information. An example: I can receive my new off the internet, but I still prefer to get my newspaper in the morning for reading at my leisure away from a computer.
- When is 1997 Census to be available? Please keep as much of the data in print as possible--Thanks!
- Census bureau data is always helful--the data you provide enhances our publication and enables readers to make informal business decisions.
- Documents need to more clearly state whom to contact for follow-up information.
- Thanks for asking!
- Over the past several months, I have begun to utilize the U.S. Census Bureau's web site, specifically the economic briefing room. I use this information in conjunction with the Kiplinger letter to keep up with marketing anyalysts. Having the information on the web makes it very easy to access. Thanks!
- Thank you for your great service!
- The level of detail varies depending on the type of data requested. Mostly county-level data is used

• because this is what is available.

Although the technology of the internet is available to tie up my phone line browsing for information to print out is very time consumin, whereas a printed report is much easier to access & reference. Not all government entities have the capacity to keep pace with new, faster, computer hardware & software.

• Census data has proven invaluable to in-depth country comparisons of productivity in sectors extremely valuable organization.

Please keep going with the detailed data, comparable time series (IS NAICS comparable?) and aggregate numbers.

- We use business/commercial statistics when writing market reports. We are not regular users of any of the Census publications, but value them highly in our individual case work.
- · Keep up the good work--
  - 1). Does table 3=CPI-U? on monthly reports?
- Being able to download from the web site has generally worked very well for us. The only troublesome aspect is that the page numbers of the PDF documents differ form the page numbers in their taple of contents (e.g. printing page 18 gets you page 12 of the document).

A big "thank you" to the Census specialists who have been most helpful and polite when we've called with questions.

- We serve a varied clientale (academic, business, government, and private citizens) and work across many subject. Census data are absolutely vital to us. Our biggest need is for more geographic area detail more frequently (state, county, place, if possible). Users often do not understand the 5 yr. gaps and lag time for the major Economic Surveys that offer such detail, much less the 10 yr. decennial cycle. The internet is a great help in speeding "publication", but we find access is not yet universal. We still download and print entire documents for guide reference and historical purposes. I am concerned about just how long the electronic medi will remain accurate and usable as technology changes. How will the Bureau deal with these problems?
- Stat-USA is an extremely useful tool for retrieving data. I would like to see more files in spreadsheet format and the ability to download particular segments.
- Please contact ASAP: Bob Davidson, Gov't Information Service Section Palm Beach county Library System Service

3650 SUMMIT BLVD. 33406 (561) 233-2600, ext. 164 email Robert ID@PB.SEFLIN.ORG

- Good job on the web site.
- I believe this survey contains a lot of information to be used.
- Retail sic classification need major redo.
- Respondent provided voluminous, illegible comments throughout that could not be deciphered to record.
- I received the survey on August 7th-so was not able to return it in the time requested!

Our office is very interested in any information on the implementation of NAICS-as our researchers will be using it a great deal.

- We still prefer to have reports generated as a hard copy for our library. If this is no longer possible, an e-mail notification service for new publications available on the Internet would be helpful.
- PDF files are big and we have to retype the data for analysis. Having raw or spreadsheet/database data would save us much time. BLS's web site is a good one to study.
- M3 data for office and computer appears to be overly strong, probably because software is being counted instead of just hardware.
- We look forward to working with you on the upcoming Census.
- Tables which have no column headings and which one must consult separate documents are highly confusing.

- I always use your data for the economic releases. My major concerns are: timeliness of data
  availability on web and being able to print the data from the web without having to reformat printing
  fonts. I also to the revisions when they come out, but often the location and structure of the
  revisions is confusing.
- I appreciate receiving this survey.
- We're still waiting for an order blank so we can order the 1997 Economic Census.
- Would be helpful if classes were offered in best techniques when seeking govt. data on the Web.

Location on Web tha would state what media given U.S. Govt. was available in (papers, Internet, etc.)

- We use and like your stuff.
- We are in the site selection/economic development function. Census data is absolutely crucial to our function, especially the ability to compare areas.
- Please update my address in your records. Thanks!
- We love the Census Bureau! Clear publications indices and ease of search engines on the Internet site are very important to us. Also, choice of how to download data is good, not all users need or can use spreadsheet software.
- More documentation and instructions for obtaining data from gohper directories would be helpful.
- I appreciate the value of your service! Educators use information for social profit.
- I'd like to receive a list of publications at a State Data Center is entitled to receive on the regular basis. I'd also like to get the description for the data we receive.
- Many of your monthly data crimes current, per month of 2 months ago but not year ago. I would be
  useful to have year ago and /or a full updated file with historical data. For example: new orders,
  inventories, etc.
- It was a mistake to exclude mobile home permits from your residential permits totals, and a bigger mistake to exclude the non-residential permits.
- I like the fact that the Census Bureau Produces many of is documents in the .pdf format, these are easy to print, bind and archive in our library. However, what is even more important to our firm is the ability to manipulate the data, and easily bring it into a data base or spreadsheet. If I had to choose I would prefer the raw data to the printable format.

I might use more of the data listed in question now that I know it exists.

• Glad more of your publications are being made available on the Intenet! Suggestion for format of employment data-group by years first, then industry. Is there some alternative for obtaining non-residential building permits.

# Figure 1: